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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/066,308	01/30/2002	Randall W. Eckel	32643.3600	2037

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EXAMINER

ROSWELL, MICHAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 08/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/066,308	Applicant(s) ECKEL, RANDALL W.	
	Examiner Michael Roswell	Art Unit 2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 September 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim recites the limitation "said portal objects", when it should in fact read "said at least one portal object" to overcome potential antecedent basis problems. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5 and 7-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kirk et al (US Patent 5,768,578), hereinafter Kirk.

Regarding claim 1, Kirk teaches an information retrieval system for retrieving information from a plurality of information sources (col. 2, lines 11-14). Kirk also teaches a portal page including a first pane and second pane (shown in Figs. 6-7), where the first pane includes a knowledge map comprising a plurality of selectable nodes (taught as the knowledge base browser use to retrieve related documents through user interaction, at col. 32, lines 2-9), and where the second pane includes a portal object comprising information associate with the selection of a node (taught as the display of selected nodes in the hypertext browser of Figs. 6-7, at col. 32, lines 9-12).

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Regarding claim 2, Kirk teaches nodes in the knowledge map displayed in accordance with a taxonomy, taught as the display of "world view concepts" displayed by a knowledge base browser as a generalization taxonomy, at col. 29, lines 20-21.

Regarding claim 3, Kirk teaches selecting multiple nodes through a knowledge explorer, taught as the retrieval of information from a knowledge base through the selection of nodes, at col. 31, lines 55-67.

Regarding claim 4, Kirk teaches the gathering and filtering of information related to the selection of a node, taught as the display information within and filtering of information outside of the "world view", at col. 29, lines 28-31.

Regarding claim 5, Kirk teaches the selection of a portal page from a plurality of pages arranged in a hierarchy, taught as the retrieval of information from a knowledge base through the selection of nodes, at col. 31, lines 55-67.

Regarding claim 7, Kirk teaches the display of a portal page comprised of HTML served in accordance with HTTP protocol, taught as the use of a hypertext browser for viewing information over the World Wide Web, at col. 2, lines 18-21. Hypertext browsers are well known in the art to display HTML documents in accordance with HTTP protocol.

Regarding claim 8, Kirk shows in Figs. 6-7 the display of at least one portal object in a column and row configuration, in this case one column and one row.

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Regarding claim 9, Kirk teaches an information retrieval system for retrieving information from a plurality of information sources (col. 2, lines 11-14). Kirk also teaches transmitting a portal page to a user including a first pane and second pane (shown in Figs. 6-7), where the first pane includes a knowledge map comprising a plurality of selectable nodes (taught as the knowledge base browser use to retrieve related documents through user interaction, at col. 32, lines 2-9), and where the second pane includes a portal object comprising information associate with the selection of a node (taught as the display of selected nodes in the hypertext browser of Figs. 6-7, at col. 32, lines 9-12).

Regarding claim 10, Kirk teaches nodes in the knowledge map displayed in accordance with a taxonomy, taught as the display of "world view concepts" displayed by a knowledge base browser as a generalization taxonomy, at col. 29, lines 20-21.

Regarding claim 11, Kirk teaches selecting multiple nodes through a knowledge explorer, taught as the retrieval of information from a knowledge base through the selection of nodes, at col. 31, lines 55-67.

Regarding claim 12, Kirk teaches the gathering and filtering of information related to the selection of a node, taught as the display information within and filtering of information outside of the "world view", at col. 29, lines 28-31.

Regarding claim 13, Kirk teaches the selection of a portal page from a plurality of pages arranged in a hierarchy, taught as the retrieval of information from a knowledge base through the selection of nodes, at col. 31, lines 55-67.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirk and Kelts (US Publication 2002/0054134).

Kirk has been shown *supra* to teach an information retrieval system for retrieving information from a plurality of information sources (col. 2, lines 11-14). Kirk also teaches transmitting a portal page to a user including a first pane and second pane (shown in Figs. 6-7), where the first pane includes a knowledge map comprising a plurality of selectable nodes (taught as the knowledge base browser use to retrieve related documents through user interaction, at col. 32, lines 2-9), and where the second pane includes a portal object comprising information associate with the selection of a node (taught as the display of selected nodes in the hypertext browser of Figs. 6-7, at col. 32, lines 9-12).

However, Kirk fails to explicitly teach providing a list of one or more nodes of favorites associated with a user.

Kelts teaches a navigation interface for the display of information from a plurality of information systems. Furthermore, Kelts teaches providing a list of one or more nodes of favorites associated with a user, taught as the use of a bookmark button for adding a selected station to a user's browser bookmark of Favorites list, at page 7, ¶ 0110.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kirk and Kelts before him at the time of the invention to modify the information retrieval system of Kirk with the bookmarking ability of Kelts in order to obtain a system for the retrieval of information from a plurality of sources where selected stations or nodes may be bookmarked and stored in a list.

One would be motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of immediate access of an oft-used or important node or station. See Kelts, ¶ 0110.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art relates to the web portal concept and the state of the art in general.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Roswell whose telephone number is (703) 305-5914. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Michael Roswell
8/6/2004



CAO (KEVIN) NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER